

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting data comprising the steps of:
transmitting a message indicative of the rate of said data prior to and independent of data transmission and the time interval over which said data will be transmitted at said rate; and
transmitting said data at said rate during said time interval using one data transmission channel;
wherein said message comprises:
an indication of the frame type;
an indication of said rate of said data; and
an indication of said time interval;
wherein said frame type indicates at least one of link schedule, channel active set and erasure-indicator-bit.
2. – 3. (Cancelled)
4. (New) An apparatus for transmitting data comprising:
a transmitter for transmitting a message indicative of the rate of said data prior to and independent of data transmission and the time interval over which said data will be transmitted at said rate;
wherein said transmitter further configured for forming said message to include at least an indication of the frame type, an indication of said rate of said data; and
an indication of said time interval;
wherein said frame type indicates at least one of link schedule, channel active set and erasure-indicator-bit.